

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05 SS-15 /062 W

-----008710 101116Z /12

R 090802Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5510

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 2098

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BM, TW

SUBJECT: BURMESE ARREST TAIWAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS

1. ACCORDING TO BURMESE PRESS REPORTS APPEARING JUNE 9, BURMESE COURTS ARE NOW BRINGING TO TRIAL TAIWANESE INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVES ARRESTED LAST DECEMBER IN MAYMYO, MYITKYINA, HSIPAW, MANDALAY, LASHIO, MARTABAN AND RANGOON. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS STORIES, TWENTY-ONE TAIWANESE ARE INVOLVED, OF TWO HAVE ABSCONDED. PISTOLS, MINES, RADIO TRANSMITTERS AND SPARE PARTS, CAMERS, CODE BOOKS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND DOCUMENTS WERE ALSO SEIZED DURING THE ARRESTS. THE ACCUSED ARE BEING TRIED FOR VIOLATION OF ARMS, IMMIGRATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE LAWS AND LEGISLATION SIMILAR TO OUR NEUTRALITY LAWS. THE TWO "ABSCONDERS" ARE BEING TRIED IN ABSTENIA.

2. COMMENT: THE GUB HAS FROM TIME TO TIME ATTEMPTED TO CRACK DOWN ON KMT AGENTS OPERATING AGAINST COMMUNIST CHINA FROM BURMESE TERRITORY. THE ARRESTS, COMING A MONTH OR SO BEFORE TENG HSIAO-PING'S VISIT, MAY HAVE BEEN AN ATTEMPT TO REMIND THE PRC OF THE

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GENUINENESS OF BURMA'S INTENTION NOT TO SUPPORT OR ALLOW ACTIVITIES HOSTILE TO THE PRC. THE TIMING OF THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THESE ARRESTS MAY SIMPLY REFLECT THAT THE CASES ARE NOW BEFORE THE TRIAL COURTS, BUT MAY ALSO BE INTENDED TO PROVIDE "BACKGROUND MUSIC" FOR THE CURRENT VISIT OF BURMESE DEFENSE MINISTER KYAW HTIN TO PEKING (RANGOON 2033).

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARRESTS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978RANGOO02098
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780243-0385
Format: TEL
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 03 may 2005
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2414792
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BURMESE ARREST TAIWAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BM, TW
To: STATE TAIPEI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d7cf428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014